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THE FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1833.

Mr. J. BUEL, of Albany, has, at our solicitation, consented to aid us in the Editorial department of the Farmer, so far as his other avocations will permit.

RURAL LABOR

BENEFICIAL TO PROFESSIONAL MEN.

A clergyman, residing in the north east part of Massachusetts, in a letter to one of the editors, thus speaks in commendation of rural labor: "I cultivate but a small piece, and this only as a matter of taste and amusement. I think the personal attention which I have given to my garden, has been of the highest benefit to my health, and thereby enabled me to go through labors connected with my profession which I should otherwise never have been able to perform. I spoke of cultivating as a matter of taste and convenience. I ought to say, that as my trees and vines come forward, I begin to realize the truth of the adage, that "in all labor there is certainly profit." And I cannot refrain from observing how different would be the situation of many clergymen, I may add lawyers, physicians, merchants and mechanics, would they from the commencement of business direct some of their leisure hours to the cultivation of a garden and a fruit lot."

This worthy man (and he is not the only one of the profession that is in this way worthy) has done much to awaken a taste for improvement in rural labor among his flock; and we have read with interest his communications to the Agricultural Society of his county. Such a man is preeminently useful; and we publish the extract without permission, in the hope that his example may be profitable to others. The clergy certainly have it in their power to improve the temporal, as well as spiritual interests, of those around them; and nothing goes further, in either, than good example.

HYBRIDS.

Joseph Correa de Serra, a philosophical botanist, was formerly minister from the king of Portugal to the United States. In a letter to Dr. Mease, dated Sept. 13, 1818, he mentions the following curious circumstance; and if any of our correspondents are acquainted with those *hybrids*, we should be glad to receive from them a further account:

"The Moravians in Bethlehem, (Pa.) planted many European white mulberry trees, which being left to themselves, grew luxuriantly, intermixing with the *Morus rubra*, a native of America, and very common in the interior of Pennsylvania. It has happened that they have formed alliances, an event not rare in the vegetable kingdom, among plants of the same genus; and the production is a mixed-breed mulberry tree, with the leaves shaped like the American species, but in all the rest of the nature of the European. This mixed breed appears fitter than any of the parents to feed the silk-worms, bearing more succulent and tender leaves, and less rough than either of the parents."

ORCHARD GRASS.

A few years ago Orchard Grass sustained a high reputation in the south-eastern parts of Pennsylvania, as appears from the following paragraphs which we take from Judge PETER'S little work entitled *Notices for a Young Farmer*. Some of our readers who reside in that district would render us a particular service by stating whether it is still extensively cultivated among them? or whether they have found any other grass of equal value for upland pastures? together with such other particulars relating to it as they may think proper to communicate:

"SOW ORCHARD GRASS; if in autumn, harrow it in with your winter grain. Some prefer sowing it in the spring. Much depends on the soil and season. This grass will be permanent, when clover (with which it is a profitable companion) fails. It is on uplands preferable to timothy, which is a great exhauster. Timothy yields but one crop of hay, and little or no pasture on dry soils, thus leaving the fields bare of clover, and exposing it to the exhaustion of the sun and winds; while orchard grass, by its quick and repeated growths, affords a ceaseless cover and defense.

"Orchard grass sown with clover, endures in uninterrupted vigor and usefulness, when the latter in dry seasons, is burned and shriveled, or has entirely departed, having lived out its short period of existence, or been prematurely destroyed by the frost.

"Raise your own orchard grass seed; and do not spare it on your fields. Thin sowing throws up tufts, detached and coarse. You buy in the shops *much chaff* and *little seed*, insomuch that a bushel weighs only from 14 to 16 pounds at best, and some much less—barely sufficient for an acre. It should be sold by weight and not by measure. No grass can be raised more plentifully or cheaply; and yet the expense of purchasing has deterred its more general use."

TURNEP CULTURE.

Extract.—"The time was, and that not very distant, when prime fed beef was not to be got for love or money in Great Britain. The sirloin, indeed, might grace the royal table, and the boards in the feudal banquet halls might groan under the weight of noble *barons*. Their cattle could only not get any feeding at all in summer; and in winter they were starved on straw and water. A great part of the next summer was spent in recovering from this state of starvation. In the end of autumn, when the cattle had all the beef upon them which they could acquire, and lest they should lose even that little in winter, they were slaughtered in numbers, and salted for winter use; so that fresh beef could only be obtained in summer, and salt junk was every man's portion in winter.—Now, on the other hand, fresh beef can be obtained in the highest perfection in all seasons. Not only do the ribs "covered" still impart a relish to a feast, but we have the certainty of being able to obtain a roast sirloin whenever we please. In summer our cattle luxuriate in rich pastures, full of ease; and in winter they have abundance of succulent food, capable of maintaining not only what flesh has been gained in pasturage, but of increasing, in a superior degree, the fattening condition of the whole carcase. So great and so important a change in the treatment and condition of cattle, has been mainly effected by the introduction into our husbandry of the cultivation of a single root—the TURNEP. Such is the vast revolution and reformation which this single plant has effected in the rotation of crops, the fertility of soils, the richness of pastures, and the treatment of live stock, that our wonder at its properties is still excited by reflection, amidst our daily experience. What a source of wealth has this plant been to our land! Lord Kames, whose agricultural writings it is always delightful to peruse, even where improved practice has made many of his opinions obsolete, thus writes with enthusiasm on the importance of the turnep: "It animates me to have opportunity for giving directions about a crop, that the best farmers in this country have now taken into their plan of husbandry; and that does not altogether escape small farmers. No person ever deserved better of a country than he who first cultivated turnep in the field. No plant is better fitted for the climate of Britain—no plant prospers better in the coldest parts of it, and no plant contributes more to fertility. In a word, there has not, for two centuries, been introduced into Britain a more valuable improvement."—*Quar. Jour. Ag.* 1831, pp. 228, 229.

Remarks.—We learn from the preceding extract the wonderful improvement which the field culture of the turnep has produced in the husbandry of Great Britain. Although the culture of this root does not promise equal advantages with us; yet it cannot fail of becoming extremely beneficial. Its place is in a measure supplied with us by Indian corn, which we use to some extent in fattening farm stock; yet we have no crop so beneficial as this in ameliorating the soil. The greatest objection to the turnep culture here is the severity of our winters, which renders it necessary to secure the roots in cellars or in pits. But even this objection is not so formidable as at first appears. They may be fed from the field during the months of October and November, and ordinarily during a part of December. Cellars under barns would afford a convenient reception for them for winter use; but I have used them from pits during the entire winter, for feeding fatting oxen, without great inconvenience. My practice was, when I opened a hole, to take the whole of its contents, and cover the roots in the barn with an abundance of straw and litter; and although they were sometimes partially frozen, the cattle nevertheless ate them readily on their being cut.

The culture of the turnep, as a field crop, commenced in England about a century ago, first in the county of Norfolk, principally a light sandy district; and from thence it has made its way into every part of England, and more recently into Scotland. Mr. Colquhoun estimates the value of the turnep crop annually growing in that country at £14,000,000—62,000,000 dollars. The county of Norfolk, from being one of the most unproductive in agricultural resources, has long since become one of the best and most productive districts in England, and seems likely to hold that rank. The value of her lands has been increased ten fold.

There are several varieties of the turnep; but the principal kinds raised for stock, until recently, has been the white Norfolk, or globe, which grows to a large size. The Scotch yellow is raised to a considerable extent. It is hardy, and keeps better than the globe for spring use. The

Swedish, or ruta baga, is now supplanting the other kinds, as being more nutritious than the others, and retaining its firmness the longest. The turnep is as extensive as the wheat crop, in England, on lands adapted to its culture. Forty to one hundred acres are raised on a farm annually. Cattle are fattened upon turneps and straw. A bullock of 800 to 1000 pounds weight consumes a ton a week, or four bushels a day, and the average product of an acre will feed him six months. The common turnep may be raised here as a second crop, after small grains, and may be sown as late as the first of August. The Norfolk should be sown by the middle of July, and the Swedish from the 25th June to first of July. Either of the two last may be grown after clover. B.

ON GARDENING--No. V.

If I were to follow my original intentions, this essay, (if it deserves the name,) would be dedicated to a different branch of gardening, as the present period is so proper for sowing various sorts of vegetables, but the solicitations for *instructions* for planting a flower garden are so numerous, and as I find the principal part of my correspondents on that interesting subject are *Ladies*, I cheerfully wave my own intentions to comply with the wishes of my fair patrons, conscious that from their influence, and by their example, this branch of gardening is to emanate, succeed and prosper.

The formation of a flower garden has already been described in the Farmer, vol. 2, p. 354, 361; and the planting has also been explained as respects *perennial plants*, but as *annuals* will, I presume, for amateurs, be for some time the adopted ornaments of *summer* gardens, I think it best to confine myself at present to *their culture*.

The growing of hardy annual flowers is one of the simplest operations connected with gardening, yet one which conduces more in creating a taste for Flora's beauties than all other branches of the art combined together. The vivid hues displayed by nature in these productions of our sublunary world, are, like many others, calculated to captivate for the moment, but the effects are evanescent. *Perennial* flowers lead the mind to a higher source: their development, their progress, and their maturity, give us a distinct idea of childhood, youth and manhood, and their permanency impresses on our minds that there is a futurity which has no termination. But as annuals is the *theme*, I shall proceed to the subject.

All annuals require a very light, friable soil; they should be sown in a circumference not exceeding eight inches in diameter, at a distance of about two feet apart, and the taller growing sorts invariably placed in the distance, (that is, furtherest from the walk or lawn.) Scatter the seeds in the allotted space, according to their size, which is a good criterion in general as to their growths, and cover them over in proportion, according to their size, from one-fourth of an inch to an inch, with fine rich mold, which is the only point of consequence that generally attends the raising of annual flowers.

Yours, very respectfully,
ALEXANDER GORDON.

Rochester Nursery, April 12, 1833.

"W. P. W." next week.

VERNAL FLOWERS.

Extract of a letter to the Publishers.

In answer to the often repeated question, '*What are the finest flowers in the garden at present?*' I should say *the Crocus, the Persian Iris*, the *European Erythronium*, and the *Siberian Squill*,—and perhaps the *single snow-drop*, and *Bulbocodium vernum* might be included. This is the state of things on *the first day of the month*; but if I make out a list for you a fortnight hence, so rapid are the changes among vernal plants, that probably not one of these will be found.

I have only eight kinds of Crocus, but these are very distinct; and several are so fine that I am eager to procure others. The chief merit of the "cloth of gold" is its earliness. The "white flamed," the large yellow, the large striped purple, the "large blue," and the pure white, are splendid flowers. Precision of language however, is not always an attribute of the gardeners: what they call "the large blue" is a fine rich purple; and I wish to know if there is such a sort as a genuine blue *Crocus?*

The Persian Iris is a flower of extraordinary beauty, and of the most delicate fragrance. It is truly an object of special wonder, and ought to be in every ornamental garden. I have had *Erythronium dens canis* for two years, and it has opened its reddish purple flower to-day for the first time. I am delighted with this little stranger, for it is a perfect beauty in both flower and leaf. It is much earlier than either of our American species.

The Siberian Squill is also a great favorite of mine. Although it had risen to the surface, the freezing winds of last week were severe; and like some other little creatures, it seemed afraid to venture out. To-day we have the most delightful temperature, and its brilliant blue flowers are raised an inch above the earth. It will soon rise higher.

The single snow drop is finer than the double variety. These, and the crocus increase moderately fast—the Persian Iris much less so—the Siberian Squill very slowly—but the others in my soil and with my culture have not produced a single offset.

GRAFTING.

Volusia, Chatauque co., March 19, 1833.

Messrs. Editors—Will some person, through the columns of the Genesee Farmer, answer the following questions? Is it possible to make a red and green apple cion grow together so as to produce fruit, one half of which shall be red, the other half green? that one half may be sweet, the other half sour? If so, how is it performed? Is it by grafting, or by inoculation? What season should grafts be set? and what time in the summer should inoculation be performed?

Remarks by a correspondent.

In reply to the above, we answer, that there is no doubt but that two cions may be split longitudinally, and nicely fitted together, and thus be ingrafted to a common stock; but whether the fruit would partake of both parents, is quite apocryphal. It seems to us that, as the cion grew and lengthened itself, it would still preserve its identity, as undoubtedly would each bud which should sprout from the original cion; if a blossom bud should start from the wood at the very line of union, we are not prepared to say what would be the result. We have never seen an apple of the two colors so distinctly marked as to indicate an operation of this kind, but there are many instances of apples half sweet and half sour, and we were last fall shown a limb with the apples attached, alternately sweet and sour, which was characteristic of the whole tree. It has been often asserted, that the half sour and half sweet apples were produced by the splitting of the graft, or the bud, in inoculation; while others have asserted that it was a premature ripening of one side of the fruit.

The peach and the plum will graft and bud together; what would be the consequences if this union should take place? ripening at different periods, a rough skin and a smooth one, stones of a different size and form—it would certainly be an anomaly in nature.

The best season for budding is at any time after the formation of the new bud, when the bark will peal freely on the stock. If put in too early, they are apt to start late in the season, and not ripen their wood. July and August are the best months. Grafting is preferable to budding in all cases except on small and young stocks, or with the peach, nectarine and apricot.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTE.

Addressed to the Publishers.

On the 2d instant the *bay-winged buntings* had *not* appeared; but the wind,—which for two days before had been westerly with a clear sky,—had set in from the south, indicating a change of weather; and this morning (the 3d inst.) those birds were singing with great animation. We have therefore another proof that our migratory songsters come *with* the wind.

The Lily of the Holy Scriptures.

I have lately noticed an attempt to impress the belief that the lily of the Old and New Testaments is not (as has been supposed) the common white lily (*Lilium candidum*) which is a native of Palestine, but the *Amaryllis lutea*. I should have been better satisfied if the writer of that paragraph, had taken the trouble to show that his opinion was more conformable to the texts which relate to that plant; but as this has not been done, I must take the liberty to dissent, and I am willing to give my reasons for so doing.

The *Amaryllis lutea* is a little plant with one yellow flower on a scape about six inches high, and inferior in brilliancy and beauty to the majority of bulbous plants cultivated in gardens. But the lily of the Scriptures, is referred to as one of the finest flowers of that country: "Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Mat. 6, 29. In the Song of Solomon it is placed on an equality with the rose: "I am the rose of Sharon, the lily of the valleys." 2, 1. I find no reference to its *color*, but it was very fragrant: "His lips, lilies, dropping sweet smelling myrrh." Song, 5. 13.

All these particulars agree well with the white lily, but not with *Amaryllis lutea*; and how this little flower could be the subject of the following references, it would require some ingenuity to discover: "As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters." Song, 2, 2. "He shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon." Hosea, 14, 5. The former text shows it *not* too diminutive to *compare* with the thorn;

and the latter text, evidently refers to a plant of vigorous growth. A FLORIST.

THE SEASON.

Thus far our spring has been unusually early and mild. Although the month of March came in with great severity, the temperature of the air soon relaxed, and for the last three weeks, the weather has been as mild and invigorating as it usually is in May. The consequence is, that vegetation is very forward, and gardening already commenced; and unless we have some late and untimely frosts, we may expect an uncommonly propitious season. By a reference to the Floral Calendar of the Farmer of last year, it will seem that apricots were not in blossom until the 24th of April, and that on the 28th, cherry blossoms had just began to expand. The season was much the same in 1831. On the 3d inst., a number of blossoms on an apricot tree standing in my yard were fully expanded, and to-day, the 8th, the tree is covered with white blossoms, though not in full bloom. Cherry and peach blossoms very much swollen, and many ready to expand. Daffodils and chickweed in full bloom, and the leaves and blossoms of the lilac projected more than an inch. I think it may be fairly said that the season is full *two weeks* earlier than it was last year. QUERCUS.

Rochester, April 8, 1833.

AN ACCOUNT

OF MR. HUISH'S HIVE, AND ONE DESCRIBED IN POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC.

This account of Mr. Huish's hive, which suggested one of the principal improvements recommended in my last communication, I will give in his own words:

"Having examined the different hives which are now in use in this country, (England,) and upon the continent, it barely remains for me to describe the hive, which, although its general principles are of an early date, yet its improvements have been entirely suggested by myself. As it has always been my invariable study to preserve the lives of these valuable insects, and at the same time to reap the greatest possible advantage from their labors, the selection of a proper abode for them was a matter of no secondary consideration, for on this must depend the success of the undertaking. I had been so often defeated in my expectations regarding the deprivation of the common straw hive, and especially by the sticks with which they are superfluously furnished to keep the honey from falling, that I was persuaded it was a shape suited only to the use of those persons who suffocate their bees; but to the deprivator it was the most inconvenient and unmanageable sort that could be devised. It was a flower-pot which first gave me an idea of the shape, and which appeared to possess peculiar advantages. It would, in the first place, supersede the necessity of sticks, for the comb then acting like a wedge, being larger at the top than the bottom, would not fall on to the board. One only method now presented itself of extracting the comb, and this was at the top; and this I knew could not be effected, if the combs were all constructed in one mass, upon one basis, which is common to the generality of hives. I reflected that a bee will never work upon an unstable foundation, and that my plan would succeed if I could insert some net work between the pieces of wood. Having obtained seven pieces of seasoned wood, about one and a half inch broad, and about a quarter of an inch thick, I laid them equidistant upon the top of the hive; and having fastened them to the outer band, which serves as their bases, and covered them with net work, over which I placed a circular board the whole size of the hive, I then divided the circular board into five pieces, which are attached to each other by hinges; each one can be opened separately upon occasion. To obviate the objection of this flat top, (on account of the moisture,) I made six holes in the top board, and closed them with plates of tin perforated with small holes. The whole I covered with a convex straw cover, constructed in the same manner as the hive. This guarded the swarm from moisture without and within. Whenever I require some honey-comb, at any season of the year, I open the top by removing the cover, and take out one of the side boards, (as above,) cut off the comb, and replace the board again as before, or clap in another of the same dimensions if the bees prove troublesome. This operation is quick done, without disturbing the middle combs, and often without the loss of one single bee. In the month of August, 1810, I obtained from one of my hives eighteen pounds of beautiful honey-comb; by the 10th of September the void was filled again, and I took out ten pounds more, leaving a sufficiency to supply the swarm through the winter. This hive will never require any enlargement to give the bees more room; this may always be done by extracting the comb as above. It opens the whole interior of the hive for your inspection whenever you wish to search the hive for moths, mice, or other destructive evils to your bees."

The writer, in saying that "this hive will never require any enlargement to give the bees more room," means, I presume, that it will not need increasing on the storying plan. The bees will swarm as in any other hive. What this net work is he does not tell us. It will readily be perceived that this is the principle I have adopted in the construction of the extended hive.

The other improvement is in forming the entrance for the bees in such a manner as to secure more effectually against the moth, which was suggested by reading an account of a hive in an almanac. It is briefly this: The hive was of the common construction of wooden hives, and I believe upon the storying system. It had no notches or holes in the edge at the bottom. This hive is placed on a bottom board, which projects on the front side about eight inches. In this part that projects there is cut a groove two inches wide and one-third of an inch deep, running under the hive. The hive is set on, fitting as tight as possible to the board; then a thin strip of board is put on, covering this groove, one end fitting snug against the hive, the other end extending out to the edge of the board, thus placing the entrance eight inches from the hive. The tube or spout which I use, it will be perceived, is on the same principle. The person who invented this method, and who resided on Long Island, had used it several years with success, and had not been troubled at all by the worm. I was relating this method not long since to a person who called to see my apiary, and he said he had used it himself for three years, and his hives had not been molested by worms—having obtained it from the same source with myself, Poor Richard's Almanac. W. W. B.

Hammond's Port, Feb. 13, 1833.

☞ We have published on our first page for several weeks, a notice requesting all letters for this establishment to be addressed to LUTHER TUCKER & Co. We would call the particular attention of our friends to this subject, as orders or communications addressed to any other person have not for some weeks past, and will not probably for the future, reach us. Any person who has ordered the paper, and not received it, is requested to give us notice, that it may be sent.

EDUCATION.

MESSRS. L. TUCKER & Co.—Although not of the number to whom your correspondent refers in his communication in a late Genesee Farmer on the subject of education, particularly in regard to what kind of spelling-books should be used in our primary schools, yet having been conversant with the manner of conducting such schools, and believing that, in order that they may become what they should be, nurseries of learning, a radical change must take place in the whole system, I will submit a few remarks upon this important subject; and in doing this, I shall not confine myself to "spelling-books," but take a brief view of the whole subject, or the incipient stages of it.

In regard to spelling-books I would say, with Professor Eaton, discard the whole tribe. Instead of compelling a child to pour over a spelling-book during the best portion of his life for acquiring useful knowledge, spelling and reading words which he does not understand, and about which he cares nothing, I would place in his hands an infant school primer, or some similar cheap work, containing the simple elementary sounds, and easy familiar stories, suited to the capacity of the child, such as will engage his attention, and make the exercise of reading a pleasure rather than a task. By familiar interrogatories and explanations he should be made to understand all he reads, and never be allowed to read any thing beyond his comprehension.

As soon as a child has become acquainted with the contents of one book, another should be provided; and as a series of books for children, I would recommend the works of Peter Parley, beginning with his stories about geography, and proceeding through the whole. Commence with a child in this manner, and instead of being obliged to resort to threatening and punishment to quicken his intellect, the teacher, or the parent, who in fact should be the teacher, will find much solicitude on the part of the child for instruction and explanation; and that parent who regards the education of his child as important, will not send him empty away. By a judicious course of instruction it is surprising how much a child will learn in a short time. By the time he is five or six years old, he may be a good reader, have a genuine knowledge of geography, history, astronomy, &c. A child should early be taught to *think*. Unless the *child* be taught to think systematically, the *man* never will. And not only should he be taught to think, but also to speak correctly; and those parents who neglect their children in this respect, are highly culpable.

One word in respect to our common schools as they are conducted at present. If I wished to make my children hate instruction, I would most surely send them to a common school, to an itinerant pedagogue, who has sixty or eighty scholars, of all ages and conditions, crowded together in a miserable, cold, and ill constructed house, with nothing but bare walls, hard benches, a tyrannical teacher, or as frequently a mere keeper, and close confinement. J. H.

March 20, 1833.

☞ The writer of the above is requested to continue his remarks on the subject of Education. Though our common schools are the pride of our state, there is great room for improvement in their management.

ON THE CULTURE OF SILK

AS AN APPENDAGE TO COUNTY HOUSES OF PAUPERISM.

Copy of a Letter to the Superintendents of the Onondaga County Poor House.

GENTLEMEN—Although the culture of mulberry trees, with a view to the growth and manufacture of silk, has of late produced great excitement in many sections of this country, and occupied the respectful attention of our national government, and many of the state legislatures, yet I am not aware that you have given to the subject that attention which its importance demands, especially as it is applicable to such institutions as the one committed to your care. Permit me, therefore, to introduce this subject to your attentive consideration.

The thought has occurred to many of our most discerning patriots and statesmen, that the culture of silk might, with peculiar facility, be introduced at such establishments. Give me leave to quote here a few sentences of an address on the culture of silk, lately delivered before the convention for forming a State Agricultural Society, by the venerable Judge Spencer, late Chief Justice. Having exhibited, in a most striking light, the vast advantages that might accrue to the United States, and especially to the state of New-York, from a general attention to the culture of silk, he proceeds to say: "This culture, [the culture of the silk,] is admirably adapted to that system which has now become almost universal in this state, the collection of paupers in county poor houses. Among the inmates of such establishments, there will be many aged and decripid persons and children incapable of hard labor, but who would find it a pleasurable employment to collect the leaves of the mulberry, and to feed and attend to the silk worms. If those who have charge of these establishments would at once attend to the planting of the mulberry along the fences and the roads, and other proper sites, there is every reasonable prospect that, from the culture of silk alone, in a few years the expenses of the poor houses would be greatly mitigated, and eventually they may be able to support themselves from this source alone. I am very anxious to see the planting of the mulberry tree begun in earnest by these establishments, because, from the facts I have alluded to, they are peculiarly adapted to such enterprise.

"There is another consideration which strongly recommends the culture of silk, with a view of giving a profitable employment to women and children. The establishment of manufactures, and the introduction of labor-saving machinery, have greatly superseded various household productions. The exemption thus produced in household labor, requires some profitable new employment, and it will be found in the culture of silk.

"Gentlemen—if the State Agricultural Society about to be formed shall be instrumental in introducing into this state the culture of silk upon an extensive scale, and if they effect nothing else, in my opinion, that alone will entitle them to the grateful thanks of this community."

You, gentlemen, will at once see, that remarks, based as these are on a thorough knowledge of facts, (that distinguished statesman and jurist having, as chairman of the committee on Agriculture for the House of Representatives, had the whole subject before him two successive years,) are entitled to great consideration. Nothing can be added better to illustrate the advantages of connecting this business with poor house establishments. In my opinion the subject presents strong claims to the attention of those gentlemen who have the care of such institutions.

The results of numerous experiments, in different sections of the country, have settled the question beyond all dispute, that the soil and climate of the United States, and especially of the state of New-York, are well adapted to the growth of mulberry trees, and peculiarly so to the health and productiveness of silk worms. Mr. D'Homergue, a distinguished silk manufacturer, operating at Philadelphia, has ascertained that silk worms produce considerably more in this country than in the best silk countries of Europe, and that the produce is of superior quality. Several specimens of American raw silk have recently been sent to Europe for trial, and having undergone, at different places in France and England, elaborate investigations, they were found to possess superior excellence. The results were such as to leave no doubt that American raw silk might command the highest prices in the markets of Europe.

These, gentlemen, are well attested facts; and what more should the people of this country wait for, to induce them to engage heart and hand in a business which promises so great rewards?

The celebrated Le Ray de Chaumont, late President of the State Agricultural Society, and for many years President of the Agricultural Society in Jefferson county, returned last season to France, his native country, on a visit. Having traveled some weeks in that country and Switzerland, he wrote home to Judge Buel, then Corresponding Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, expressing his entire conviction, from what he had seen and learnt in Europe, that the culture of silk ought to receive, in the state of New-York, all possible encouragement. He carried with him a few cocoons of his own production in Jefferson county, and although, as he says, they were produced without skill, and with very little care, yet they were admired in France as superior specimens of that article. That distinguished patriot was satisfied that silk could be produced in the state of New-York, and in the United States generally, to at least as great advantage as in the best silk countries on that side of the water.

I ask again, what more do the people want to stimulate them to action?

It is an undisputed fact, that in whatever country or place the culture of silk has been successfully carried on, it has always been found a very lucrative business, much more so than that of agriculture under any other direction.

A small piece of land, containing only one, two or three acres, and devoted to the growth of mulberry trees, can be made to produce a greater annual income than that of a large farm, under the ordinary process of farming. The labor to be employed during the short season of feeding worms may be such as can be hired for low wages.

But I am admonished, by the length to which my subject is leading me, to forbear multiplying considerations in favor of undertaking the culture of silk. I have enough of them at my command to occupy the pages of a considerable volume.

It affords me satisfaction to know that many of our enterprising citizens have commenced efforts to cultivate mulberry trees, and that countless nurseries, and not a few permanent plantations of them, are now in existence among us. I know also that the subject is a popular one—that statesmen and legislators patronize it, and look to the culture of silk as an object of great national as well as individual importance. I am satisfied that our state legislature will be ready at any time, and at all times, to apply to it a helping hand, when it can be sure what specific enactments will be best adapted to its aid. In these considerations I perceive a sufficient guaranty that the work will go on, and its advantages, in a short time, be developed in a manner the most satisfactory.

Those praiseworthy citizens who have commenced efforts may need caution not to relax their exertions, and not to be discouraged because they do not realize immediate profits. Some time must elapse, after the commencement of efforts, before profits can be realized. In this case, bread must be cast upon the waters, but it will be sure to return after many days.

Those who have young trees will do well to commence feeding worms, in order to be gradually acquainting themselves with the process of management; but they should not look for profits until they can feed at least sixty thousand worms. Any one who sets himself to work in good earnest, can easily enable himself to do this, and much more, in the course of two or three years.

No doubt need be entertained that, as soon as the country shall produce cocoons in sufficient quantities to sustain filatures for reeling, and markets for silk produce in its various forms, both will be supplied in our own vicinities. Neither is there the least danger that this business will be overdone, as is the case with many other branches of industry. If such an event can ever happen, it will not happen during a century to come. The more that engage in this enterprise, the more certain will be the prospects of success, and the sooner will its plenary advantages be realized.

Every farmer should, without delay, set himself to work to provide for himself a mulberry plantation. Thus doing, he will provide the means of improving his own circumstances, and of mitigating the sufferings of the poor in his vicinity. In many cases, mechanics, and gentlemen of other occupations, may do well for themselves, and for community, by turning a portion of their attention to this business.

Do you ask, in what manner should operations be commenced at the poor house? I answer: You ought to procure this spring at least five hundred, perhaps a thousand or more, nursery trees of good size, and cause them to be set twelve feet apart, for a permanent plantation. Furthermore, you ought to purchase of Thorburn & Son, at New-York, or C. Buel & Co. at Albany, several ounces of seed, and sow it, on well prepared ground, in the manner that onions are usually sown. Do this, and in two years you will have provided much easy, healthy, and profitable employment for the inmates of the poor house.

DAN BRADLEY.

Marcellus, April 6, 1833.

PLOUGHS AND PLOUGHING.

Messrs. Editors—I return your correspondent L. my thanks, for his information where the best ploughs can be obtained for turning the furrows over flat like boards in a floor, or the nearest approximation thereto of any within his knowledge, in doing good work in old fields and tough swards.

I am well aware of the difficulties attending making ploughs that will do such work; but I believe that it is in the power of ingenuity to accomplish it, and that it will be done, and that at no distant day. L's. similitude of turning timber is a good one; but if he will round off the edges a little, and turn his first and outside stick so far from him as to have an inch or two to spare for the width and turning of his next stick, they all may be turned. And so of the furrow. If the plough is made so wide that it will turn the first and outside furrow so far as to leave a little spare room for the width of the next, that may be left flat, and so on through the field.

But I have the misfortune not to have your correspondent agree with me in the proper mode of ploughing. Ploughing is a subject of vast importance to the farmer, and whether well or ill done, mainly depends the success of his crops. And it is a subject I should gladly see discussed in your paper by abler pens than my own. L. is of opinion that I am mistaken in my notions of deep ploughing, because he says that deep ploughing puts the vegetable matter beyond the reach of any of the annual plants that farmers cultivate. And here arises the important question, how deep will the roots of plants penetrate the earth, and derive nourishment from it, if it is properly pulverized? If a hard soil, fibrous rooted plants, such as wheat, timothy, grass, &c. will penetrate to the depth you plough, and no farther. If you plough but three inches deep, and the season should prove favorable, and the soil should be rich, the plant may perhaps find sufficient pasture for its roots to give a fair crop. If you plough six inches deep, it is evident that the roots find double the pasture than though you ploughed but three inches, allowing that the roots penetrate to that depth, (and that they do is well known to all those who have taken the trouble to examine in loose ground.) In that case, the earth pulverized six inches will support two plants, where at three inches it would not but one; and so on to the depth that the sun and air will penetrate and affect the soil. And how deep that may be, I will not pretend to say; but deeper than any plough can be made to reach. There is but a small portion of this section of country, where the soil that lies eight, twelve or eighteen inches below the surface, but what is as good as the surface itself when pulverized. And it is characteristic of this country, that the sub-soil is as good as the soil itself; and even most of the earth thrown from the bottom of our wells, will produce good crops. How often do we hear of farms that are called worn out or exhausted, where superficial ploughing has been practiced, or you may say, scratching the top of the ground only, (for some ploughing you can call nothing better than scratching) and where, if the plough could have been put into the ground six or eight inches deep, the roots would have found sufficient pasture, and good crops been obtained, even without manure, and the land left unexhausted. (But, by the way, were good farming to be practiced, land never would be exhausted nor worn out.)

Land stirred deep will stand a drouth much better than shallow stirring. I have heard it asserted repeatedly, by experienced farmers near Boston, Massachusetts, where agriculture is carried to as high a state of perfection as any where in the United States, that give them an opportunity to plough, and they will defy any such drouths as they ever had been afflicted with. I have no hesitation in saying, that plough to as great a depth as the strength of three good yoke of oxen can do it, and turn the furrows perfectly flat, that the sod will decompose, and the roots of any *fibrous rooted plant* will find it, much more tap rooted; and instead of the gases arising from the decomposition of the sods, passing off in the atmosphere as they do when fully exposed to the action of the sun and air, that your crop will receive the full benefit of it, with but very little waste, if any.

If I am correct in my conclusions, and ploughs are made that will do the work as I have recommended, and that they can be, if not already, I have no doubt, we may dispense in smooth land, where the stumps are cleared away and the little knolls leveled, with summer fallowing for wheat. We may take a crop of grass from our land the same season before we need plough for wheat, and have time to pulverize the ground, and get it in good tilth and order in time to sow, without disturbing and bringing the sods to the surface, rendering it rough and unfit for a succeeding crop of grass, and on the contrary, be left smooth as a floor. The big stones carried off, and the little ones rolled in, it will be in perfect order for another crop of grass, and the third year the same process may be gone through with with great advantage, and the remains of the old sod be brought to the surface again. But an objector will say that, as this mode of culture will bring ploughing forward to midsummer, when the ground is sometimes so hard and dry that it cannot be done without great strength of team, if at all, it must therefore be impracticable. The objection would carry great weight with it, if we were obliged to force the plough through the hard dry clods; but when we propose deep ploughing, we pass the plough under the dry earth, (and it is only in very extreme drouths, and in some very peculiar dry situations, where it will be otherwise.) The lightness of the earth in turning up the furrow, will nearly if not quite compensate for its extra hardness; and the work will be accomplished about as easy as at other seasons of the year.

If I am not mistaken, and this course of crops can be pursued, one year wheat and the two following grass, and then wheat again, and the ground left so smooth that grass can be cut at the bottom of it, instead of the top of the grass only, as is the case in many fields where they pretend to mow, it being left rough from the multitude of sods upon the surface. And if this mode of culture should become general through this country, important consequences would result from it. It would remain a wheat growing country as it now is, but likewise a grazing country, and about as much stock might and would be kept as though used exclusively for grazing. If by any superior and improved method, we should make our lands twice as profitable as they now are, our lands would directly sell for twice as much as they now do, for prices have and always will keep pace with the profits of cultivation. How necessary then is it for us to study the best methods of improving our lands, interchanging opinions and practical results in all friendliness, throw aside old prejudices, and assist each other to forward the grand work of improvement. I have here endeavored to throw in my small mite into the general stock, in my coarse way, and hope to see all the important points of agriculture amply discussed by those able to throw light on the subject.

THOMAS TUFTS.

Le Roy, March 30, 1833.

NUTRIMENT FOR STOCK.

It may not be uninteresting to the readers of the Farmer, to know what quantity of nutritive matter is contained in each of the different substances they are accustomed to feed to their animals. In examining the list which I shall subjoin, they must not infer that those articles, which contain the most nutritive matter, must necessarily produce the greatest thrift and vital power to animals; for in each article, many other ingredients are found which are as essential to the health and vigor of our stock as bare nutriment. On the other hand, those substances which are most nutritious, often contain, in connection, ingredients which are very prejudicial, and sometimes fatal in their consequences. Thus wheat, which contains more nutriment than any other grain, contains also more *gluten*, or a stickey adhesive matter, which is difficult of digestion, and very apt to cake and form obstructions in the bowels. So oats, peas, beans, barley, potatoes, and the grasses, have each their peculiar compounds, which, together with nutriment, have an essential influence in the support and strength of animals. To give an analysis of each article, with its natural and ordinary effect upon animals, would form an interesting and instructive inquiry; but neither my leisure or opportunities will at present admit of it. I would observe, however, that the quantity of nutritive matter contained in any given substance, is the best and only criterion by which we can judge of its intrinsic value, as connected with the support of animal life; and it is therefore mainly to this principle we must look for the production of vigor and growth.

Sir Humphry Davy, in his Agricultural Chimistry, has given in part the following list:

1,000 parts of wheat contain 955 parts of nutritive matter; barley, 920; oats, 743; peas, 574; beans, 570; potatoes, 230; red beet, 148; parsneps, 99; carrots, 98.

Of the grasses, 1,000 parts of meadow grass, 98; sweet scented soft grass in flower, 77; yellow oat in flower, 66; saintfoin and broad leaved long rooted clover, 39; white clover, 32; lucern, 23; Swedish turneps, 64; common turneps, 42.

Quercus.

PEBBLE STONE FENCE.

Messrs. Editors—I verily believe that our friend Dr. J. W. Smith, of Lockport, is much better acquainted with the practice of physic than with making *mortar*. His mixture of twelve parts coarse sand and one part of unslacked lime, must, I think, make queer stuff. I must confess that after forty years' experience, I have yet to learn the art of mixing unslacked lime with sand and water to make mortar. His pebble stone

fence is nothing more, I think, than the tabbe work so common in the southern states, only the one is made of oyster shells and the other of stone, both on the same principle. The mode of making tabbe work at the south is as follows:

Two boards are taken, sixteen feet long and sixteen or eighteen inches wide; at one end a piece is nailed on about sixteen or eighteen inches long, and clamps put on the upper edge every four feet; the other end has a similar board put on loosely, so as to be taken off as occasion requires. This box is then set on the ground and filled with oyster shells. A mortar is prepared, one half sand and one half *slacked* lime, and made very thin; this mortar is then poured among the oyster shells until the box is filled In the course of a day the mortar will have set; the box is then moved up to within two inches of the top of the wall, the clamps put on, and again filled with oyster shells and mortar as before, and so on until the wall is as high as required. The box is then moved forward, taking off the loose board at the end, and set on the ground in a line with the wall, and again filled with the shells and mortar as before. I have seen this *tabbe* work of forty years' standing, so hard as to resist the crowbar, and have no doubt that a similar wall may be made of round stone, but the mortar must be thin, and the stone thrown in carelessly, so as to admit the mortar into all the crevices.

Yours, etc. AGRICOLA.

March 25, 1833.

N. Y. State Agricultural Society.

LETTER FROM LE RAY DE CHAUMONT.

Plessis, (near Vendome in Touraine) *Dec.* 16, 1832.

Mr. J. BUEL,

Cor. Sec. of the State Agricul. Society, Albany.

SIR—When I resolved, last summer, to pay a visit to my native country, I was much pained with the idea that it would deprive me for a considerable length of time of the satisfaction of uniting my efforts with those of such of the members of our State Agricultural Society as were zealous in promoting its success. However, I was soon relieved, when I considered how many there were in our society who could render the same service; while, during my travels and stay on this side of the water, I could make them useful by observations and notes collected on my route, upon whatever might be worth communicating; also, by connecting our society with some of those in France whose object is somewhat similar to ours. The alliance of such societies cannot but prove useful and produce improvements.

Having began my travels rather late this year, my information will not be as interesting as I could wish; but I hope, that during the other year I intend to appropriate to my stay in Europe, I will have collected facts more worthy the attention of our society. My travels have been through those parts of France, of the duchy of Bade and Switzerland, which have much analogy, in respect to climate, to that of New-York.

CULTURE OF THE VINE.

I will begin by the grape vines.

I am still more of opinion, since I left America, that serious attention should be paid to that important cultivation. I am more certain of the success which is to attend it in the state of New-York.

I have received from the county of Jefferson, information that grapes perfectly ripe have been picked from vines cultivated in open ground, and the letter which mentioned it reached me here when they had not yet began their *vendanges*, and were not expecting the grapes to be sufficiently ripe for several days to come. You must consider that I am here in that celebrated country for fruits, Touraine, which is the center of France They were much more backward in those countries I had just left and mentioned above, and in some parts of which wine is made in quantity.

You know how uncommonly severe and long was last winter in the state of New-York, and I must observe that in this country it was one of the mildest, and the spring very fine, as well as the summer; this last season was, however, rather too dry. I was still more astonished at the comparative quickness of the growth of the vine, and the abundance of its production. It is so much in our favor, that I not only created wonder, but yet a sentiment bordering upon entire incredulity, when I mentioned the produce of a cutting planted along the house of Major Brown, late in 1827, and which had produced above one hundred fine clusters, perfectly ripe, in the middle of September, 1830, and more than three hundred the following year, at the same period, equally good and fine flavored; a fact which has been well ascertained by the agricultural society of the county, and published afterwards in their transactions.

My great objection, and I must say the only one which I had, and even published formerly, to the cultivation of the vine, with a view of making wine, is removed by the happy result of many inquiries and observations I have made, in examining attentively a method very different from the one which is uniformly adopted in all the vineyards of the middle and northern parts of France. There nine-tenths of the work, at least, is made by the hand of man, and part of it so painful and hurtful to the body, as to injure materially the workmen; while in many parts of the south, and in some parts of Switzerland, where very good wines too are made, the most painful and more laborious part of the cultivation of the vine is achieved by the work of horses and cattle. The difference is such in favor of this country, between the two methods, that I do not hesitate to say, that every thing considered and calculated, this last method, with some improvements I will suggest, will not occasion you more expense than in France, to produce the same quantity of wine that would be obtained by the other method, which would cost you nearly three times as much as in France. This result is not only occasioned by the difference of the price of labor of men in the two countries, which in the preferred method is substituted for the greatest part, by the work of animals, that do not cost more in the state of New-York than in France, and which can be fed cheaper; but because this preferred method owes principally its greater produce to its having a much greater proportion of land consecrated to the same quantity of vine stalks, and that the land is considerably cheaper than here. Mr. Thiebault in comparing the two methods, to prove the immense advantage of the one he recommends, does not calculate the produce of an acre, but of the number of stalks. He says "that 2000 stalks trained according to this method, will produce nearly 26,000 gallons of wine; while on the other hand, 6000 stalks trained in the ordinary way, produce, in common seasons, only from 780 to 1300 gallons, and in the very best seasons only about 2600 gallons." This enormous difference of thirty to one, I do not warrant, but only that there is a considerable one. Mr. Thiebault adds, that the increase in quality is also considerable.

Considering the comparative value of the land you would appropriate to the cultivation of the vine, with the same nature of land in Europe, and that there is a difference of at least nine-tenths in favor of the United States, I would propose an altogether different and more economical method in the first planting of the vine. I would set the roots and wooden posts a rod apart, instead of eight feet, as recommended by Mr. Thiebault, leaving as he does, the space between for the cultivation of grain or other productions, as preferred by the farmer. The trenches two feet broad and one foot deep, should be made with the plough and the scraper, which can be equally useful and convenient in covering the roots. Some alteration and economy could be made in the hand labor, when we take into consideration that a considerable part of it can be done by children during the vacations. On the line of that plantation I would recommend planting, in an eastern and western direction, a mulberry tree alternately with the grape vine. The wooden post will for several years be the supporter of the grape vine, but it will probably be rotten and rendered useless when the vine will have sufficient strength to need no support for its stalk, but would require some aid to keep its lateral branches in the desired position. The mulberry tree will then answer the purpose: It must be well taken care of at all times, and will pay not only the expense but yield a handsome benefit for those who will pursue the cultivation of silk, or who have in their neighborhood some one cultivating it. At all events, their cattle would relish that food which would come for them in a very good season. The tree must be trimmed in such a way as to have one single stock and a very small head, which when arrived at the hight of about eight feet must be regularly trimmed twice in the fine season, when its foliage is most suitable to the feeding of worms. In that way the mulberry will give no injurious shade either to the vines or to the grain or plants which are to be sown between the ranges. You will observe that in that way of planting and cultivating the vine, the cattle, as I have stated in the beginning of this article, will do the essential part of the work; and that they not only afford the greatest help for cultivation, but yet come in for the hardest share at the time of collecting the fruit. I will one day give more details upon what is to be done in the years which will follow the planting and first growth; and you may rely upon my readiness to transmit to the society what further information they can ask from me. I intend to examine more minutely this kind of cultivation, and ascertain as near as I can the real produce. Meanwhile, I think the society may boldly recommend the cultivation of the vine, chiefly in the west and north of the state. To support this advice, I cannot better conclude this article than by quoting, what I notice with pleasure, in a letter I have just received from the respectable secretary of the agricultural society of Jefferson county. Among the different valuable details he

gives me of the cattle show and fair which took place the 26th September last, I find the following: "A curious exhibition of the process of silk-making was interesting; and Dr. Guthie accompanied his specimen of grapes with a letter, stating that the culture of the grape was as easy and certain in this country as that of raising apples, or any other of the vegetable productions."

CULTURE OF SILK.

The next important article is the culture of silk. All I have seen and heard upon that subject, since my arrival in Europe, confirms me in the opinion, that the United States in general are as well if not better adapted to the cultivation of the mulberry and the culture of silk, than the most favored countries on this side of the water. The cocoons that we raised last year at Le Raysville, with so little trouble, and such an imperfect knowledge of the proper management of this delicate worm, have been much admired by those capable of judging, to whom I presented them for examination, and the silk thought of the very first quality. I have ascertained that in the duchy of Bade, they rear the mulberry tree in very indifferent soil, rather poor, and cultivate the silk with success. Certainly where the worms are educated, the season is far from being as favorable to them as it is in the north of the state of New-York. I hope that the efforts of the society for encouraging the culture of silk will have been successful, and I am very anxious to see the report which will be made to the society on a subject of such vital importance.

CULTURE OF HEMP.

Wherever I have traveled I have observed that they cultivate hemp. I was struck with the immense expense that cultivation cost, chiefly in manure. If now and then I met with some privileged piece of ground, which by its fertility did not require such a quantity of manure, the price of the soil was so high that the mere interest of the same would have purchased, to my knowledge, in either Jefferson or Lewis counties, a similar quantity of land, as good at least for the production of hemp, and where the cultivation of it will not cost so much. I hope our society will think it advisable to recommend to the farmers a particular attention to the raising of hemp, wherever the soil is favorable to its cultivation.

DRYING FODDER.

I have noticed a curious method of drying fodder by fermentation. I think it worth giving you some details about. They put the hay in hay-cocks on even ground, very soon after it is cut, i. e. 12 or 15 hours, in piling it very equally and treading it down. Rain does not injure it materially. The diameter of a hay-cock does not exceed four feet, and the height equal to two-thirds of this diameter. As soon as the heat produced by fermentation is too great for the hand to remain in the middle of the hay cock, say 20 or 24 hours after, they use all diligence to spread the hay, bad or good weather, for it is spoiled in a few hours. Three or four hours are sufficient to dry the hay entirely. The outer part which is not fermented is put aside and treated by the ordinary means. This hay can be preserved several years without experiencing any deterioration. It has a vinous smell which cattle like when once accustomed to it. It is very well adapted to the use of cattle in general, and particularly to horses. They can eat of it freely without inconvenience, even when it is recently made. This method is chiefly advantageous to clover and luzerne, because it dries them sooner —it prevents the leaves from falling, and preserves the nutritive principle.

USE OF THE ROLLER.

I have always been an advocate of the roller, and have seen with regret that it is far from being found in every farm in the state. I am still more convinced of its utility since my last travels through France, as also of the benefit resulting from the harrow; respecting which I can recommend the following method:—In the spring, when the wheat is dry and suffering, pass on it a pair of small harrows. About a month after, the operation can be repeated. The improvement will be very sensible a short time after the first labor, and the result will be a considerable augmentation in the crop, and more straw. You need not fear to unroot the plant. Not one in five hundred will be destroyed; but if there are some lost, the others will supply their place largely from the benefit they will receive in the operation. In following this method, you can sow your wheat thinner than is commonly practiced, and provided it is sown regularly you can thicken it by the harrow. The straw becomes then stronger and the wheat seldom lodges—It saves you also from sowing as great a quantity of grain.

BARLEY.

There is a species of barley, called *May wheat*, cultivated in the north of France. The ground is prepared in the fall by deep ploughing, and a second one in dry weather immediately before sowing, which is thin, and done in the first days of April. It ripens at the same time as rye. It has a strong growth of two feet. Each stalk gives commonly 12 or 15 heads. It produces about thirty bushels to the acre. Very good bread is made with half flour of barley and half of wheat. It requires better land than common barley.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

I wish that any member of the agricultural society of the state of New-York, not sufficiently persuaded of the great utility, nay of the necessity, of encouraging the increase of agricultural societies in different parts of our state, had been with me in my travels. I regretted that establishments of that kind were not more frequent, and still more that not one of them was organized and regulated as it ought to be to promote the good contemplated. But yet the advantages of these institutions are demonstrated beyond the smallest doubt, by the considerable difference which exists between those parts of the country which have none, and the others where some of their best organized societies have exercised their influence. I could quote some of the finest parts of France where the establishment of a good agricultural society has within very few years doubled the produce of the soil. But my letter is already too long to write whatever I could say upon this subject. I must conclude, by tendering my services to our society, and assuring its members of my readiness to do all in my power to subserve its best interest. I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LE RAY DE CHAUMONT.

MUNIFICENCE.

From the Albany Evening Journal.

☞ We take pleasure in presenting, for the imitation of other men of wealth, and the admiration of the public, the following act of enlightened munificence by Mr. JAMES WADSWORTH, of Geneseo:

[*From the N. Y. Evening Post.*]

Liberal and judicious donation.—We learn with pleasure that James Wadsworth, Esq. of Geneseo, has placed in the New-York Life Insurance and Trust Company, in the name of Trustees, who are gentlemen of high standing, in different parts of the state, the sum of six thousand dollars to form a fund for the preparation and publication of popular courses of lectures, to be read in the Common Schools of this State after having been approved of by the Superintendent of Common Schools. The subjects, we understand, are Natural Philosophy, Chimistry, Political Economy, the Principles of Legislation, Horticulture, Agriculture, and Moral and Religious Instruction.

☞ Messrs. C. BUEL & CO., at the Albany Seed Store, are agents for the Genesee Farmer.

A NEW WORK.

JUST published, and for sale by the principal Booksellers, price $1 50 cents, Lindley's Guide to the Orchard and Garden, or an account of the most valuable Orchard and Garden Fruits, with the best methods of cultivating and pruning and training of standard, dwarf, and Espalier Fruit Trees—by George Lindley, C. M. H. S., edited by John Lindley, F. R. S., first American from the last London edition, with notes and additional descriptions of American Fruits, not described by Mr. Lindley, with observations on the decay of Peach and other Fruit Trees, and the methods to be adopted for their recovery and proper cultivation in the Northern and Southern States, with directions for cultivating Olives, Sweet Almonds, and Figs, in Carolina, Georgia and Florida, by Michael Floy, Nursery and Seedsman, New York. April 1, 1833.

FOR SALE.

IMPROVED *Short Horned Durham Cattle*, for sale by the subscriber; also the crosses from Durham and Devon, raised from stock imported from England by some of the most celebrated breeders in the United States.

Terms liberal. The animals are from six months to three years old, Bulls and Heifers.—Some of the Heifers are now with calf by the celebrated Durham Bull, *Admiral*, surpassed by no other in America. The animals may be seen at the stables of the subscriber.

Communications by mail promptly attended to.

L. JENKINS.

Canandaigua, Ontario co., N. Y., } mar 30-f3t
March 14, 1833. }

LUCERNE, (Medicago Sativa.)

THE subscriber having been liberally patronized in the importation and sale of this valuable Grass Seed, begs leave to inform his friends and customers, and agriculturists in general, that he has received a fresh lot and a good supply of last year's growth, and of the first quality. The high reputation which this French clover has sustained in this country, for a few years past, and from its early and rapid growth, is enough to introduce it into general use. Enough has already been said to induce every farmer to test its value and virtues.

Imported and sold, wholesale and retail, by

JAS. C. CHURCH,

37 *Madison-street, New-York,*

where a large and good supply of *Burr Stones* can always be found of superior quality and reasonable price. mar 30-f3t*

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

In Senate, March 18, 1833.

Report *of the select committee on the memorial of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society.*

Mr. Sudam, from the select committee to which was referred the memorial of the New-York State Agricultural society, praying for the establishment of an Agricultural School, reported:

That they have had under their consideration the subject submitted to them, accompanied by a report made during the present session, to the New-York Agricultural Society, and on which their memorial to the legislature is predicated.

It will be conceded that there is no portion of the community more entitled to the fostering care of the legislature, than the tillers of the soil. The farmers of the state of New-York are a class numerous, wealthy, industrious, patriotic, and above all other classes, from principle, devoted to our republican institutions, and cherishing with a holy spirit the Union of our States. Their political exertions are not called forth by a desire of any great portion of their own body for legislative honors, or for those of the minor judicial situations in the state; but to maintain and preserve inviolate that sacred trust which has descended to them by the revolutionary efforts of their fathers, the full protection of life, liberty and property.

When a storm arises in the horizon and danger awaits us from abroad, or when crazed ambition at home drives the frenzied passions of men to madness and all its excesses, it is in the farming interest of the country that you find the steady hand which holds the balance of political power, and by its strong arm repels the foe, or by its electoral voice annihilates the unjust hopes of the aspiring ambition of profligate politicians.

It may be said by your committee, (without the imputation of a state vanity,) that New-York holds a high rank by her munificent endowment of colleges, academies, and common schools We, knowing their extent, need not elaborate on them in this report. Still it is but just to say, that she is already cited in Europe as a signal instance of what may be done for the education of every class of society, under the soft and benign influence of a free government, and that her motto is, "Knowledge is wealth."

In her enterprise, by facilitating intercourse between different sections of her state and the waters of the Atlantic, she is as unrivaled in conception as she has been successful in execution. Not content with this, it is an admitted fact, and worthy of all honor, that she has carried into effect the most perfect prison discipline in the world; and we have already witnessed the wise and the humane of Europe resorting to her shores, to ascertain the art of subduing the rebellious passions of the worst of our race, without the aid of those sanguinary punishments which have so long disgraced the old world.

Thus has she expended millions of her money, and already has she erected a monument to the wisdom of her statesmen, more durable than any ever dedicated to the victor of a thousand fields.

Who are they who have contributed so freely, so generously to expenditures calculated to immortalize the state, and to establish its glory on so pure a foundation? Mainly the farmers of your country, the yeomen of the land, the tillers of the soil. Freely have they given, and joyfully have they paid, and most rich results have been the consequence of their enlightened liberality.

Is it then unfair to ask, what has been done by the legislature for a class of its citizens so numerous, virtuous and meritorious? The stranger, when he sojourns in our land, and views all that has been done for the cause of science, for education in the higher branches of literature, for your common schools, for the reformation and punishment of crimes on a scale superior to any state in Europe, naturally inquires: Show me your agricultural school. You are essentially an agricultural people; a class of society who have aided so liberally to the institutions of your state must have received the constant and peculiar care of legislative protection and patronage, by forming their minds, their habits, and their tempers, to become the patrons of the noble monuments already erected, and which, while they shed lustre on your state, have placed her first among her sisters in the Union.

Shall we any longer be compelled to answer: We have no such institution; we have provided an ample revenue for all, but a complete course of *practical* instruction in agriculture. In almost every state in Europe, the attention of despotic governments has been called—nay, seriously and sedulously directed to the formation and endowment of schools of this description. There it is admitted the motive to a certain extent may be mercenary—to provide *food* for taxation. Here it is a *debt due from the state* to a class which, before they *asked for themselves*, have *contributed to all others.*

It is conceded by your committee, that, to a certain extent, farmers are not fond of innovations. If experiments are tried, they are too often limited to one or two If they fail it is condemned. That prejudices of this description are fast wearing away, we admit: but that they still exist, to a considarable extent, there can be no doubt. And a *gentleman farmer* is generally at hand, as an instance of a poor farmer. But it is not the intention of the committee to endow an institution to rear up and educate persons in the mere theory of husbandry. It is to combine practice with science; and if it should be said that this would be a school only for the children of the more opulent, the unanswerable argument is, that it is the same in regard to your colleges, and must be so of necessity. Still the results of such an education, practiced upon in all parts of the state, must and will lead to the most beneficial results. A good example is worth a world of mere speculation.

In a school of this kind, under competent managers, there may be concentrated the best models of practice, in rural labor, known at home or abroad. The various breeds of domestic animals, the varieties of garden and orchard fruit, and the implements of husbandry, may be here satisfactorily compared, and their relative merits and advantages determined. Diversified experiments may be made in the various departments of husbandry, calculated to instruct and improve us in practice Mechanical science, particularly what is denominated *The Mechanics of Agriculture*, may be illustrated and taught in the best manner, in the shops and on the farm. The application of science to the mechanic and manufacturing arts, has, in a wonderful degree, simplified their manipulations, abridged their labor, and rendered their results more certain. From what has already been done, we are not permitted to hesitate or doubt that science will prove equally beneficial to agriculture. There is no business which embraces a wider range in natural science than this.

The laws which govern organic and inorganic matter, which influence the economy of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, it cannot be denied, have a controlling influence in the operations of the soil, and in the business of raising animals and plants. Education (practical education) is no where calculated to diffuse a more benign influence in society, than when bestowed on the farmer. He neither claims nor can exercise a monopoly. *His* improvements and *his* knowledge diffuse light around him, and are beneficial to all within the sphere of their influence.

Your committee feel assured, that if put into operation, this school will become, not only popular, but highly useful. To the pupil it will afford the most important advantages, besides instruction in the principles and practice of rural labor; which, of itself, confers the power of creating wealth. It will afford him the advantages of a *literary school*, qualify him for the higher duties of civil life, and give him withal, what is seldom acquired but in youth, habits of labor and application to business; calculated alike to promote his individual happiness and the good of the state.

With such an education, combining personal labor for a practical knowledge of all the instruments of husbandry. and the mode and manner in which it is to be prosecuted, those scientific pursuits will be prosecuted with a certainty that the foot of labor is guided by the unerring results of experience, founded in and regulated by the laws of nature.

This school is intended to be purely agricultural. But in saying this, it will be necessary to open a course of instruction, combined with labor, which your committee venture to say, will be as interesting, and to the state as valuable, as that which may be acquired in any other seminary. The different qualities of soil, as fitted for the various products of the earth; the use of compost and manures, as applicable to soils; the seasons for planting, the rotation of crops, and the vast mass of practical information which enables man to transform a wilderness into a paradise, is worthy the pursuit of the *richest* as well as the humblest of the land.

Again, the importance of procuring, at all times and at fair prices, prime stock of the best breeds of cattle, ought not to be omitted, either as an inducement to the legislature, or as of the first importance to the people.

The question is, shall we endow a school, to which many would desire to send their children for the purpose of preparing them to depend in future life, on one of the most certain, and therefore the most happy, of human pursuits; combining in itself, all the elements of constant, regular and sagacious employment, and freed from the cares and corroding recollections, present or past, of the pursuits of a political life.

It is evident that law, divinity and physic, are overstocked. The pursuits of commerce are laborious, and do not very often yield a return to persons of a moderate fortune and liberal education; as now educated, they are not fitted for farmers; so tenaciously do those early habits adhere to them, that the attempt at agriculture is generally a failure. Your committee propose to give them a school, to which resort may be had for the cultivation of the mind, and the improvement of the person: Laying the foundation for future toils and pleasures, (for toils in agriculture are pleasures, when conducted to a successful result,) for future health and happiness, and preparing them to rear up a race fit to transmit to posterity the liberties we so highly cherish.

Your committee do not, in this report, enter into a detail of the expenditure necessary for this school. That is so fully treated of in the annexed report to the Agricultural Society, that they could only repeat what is there stated. But they cannot close without remarking what must be obvious to all, how much skill and science may effect in agricultural pursuits.

Is there one of our body who has not seen and remarked the difference in adjoining farms, where *nature had made no difference* in the soil. It is this practical skill, this science, combined with labor, that they desire, (most anxiously desire) to bestow on the rising generation; and they deem it their duty, most earnestly, to press it on the consideration of the legislalure, as called for by every consideration due to the public welfare, to the true and lasting interests of the State, and as the last, but most substantial pillar in the varied edifice of her public institutions.

Impressed with this belief, and that the school recommended will, in many ways, prove highly beneficial to the community, and persuaded that the state will ultimately be fully indemnified for her advances, your committee have prepared a bill in conformity with the praver of the petitioners, which they have directed their chairman to ask leave to present.

☞ The provisions of the bill reported by the Committee, may be found on the 95th page of the Farmer.

FRUIT TREES.

THE subscriber has on hand 152 sorts of the very choicest cultivated Apples, of particularly handsome growths, and 70 sorts of the most esteemed varieties of European and American Pears Also, an extensive assortment of Plums, Peaches, Cherries, &c. at the New-York prices.

☞ *CIONS* of the above extensive assortment of Fruit Trees may be had on application at the Rochester Nursery, on the most reasonable terms.

ALEXANDER GORDON.

Rochester Nursery, March 23, 1833.